NUMB. CLXIII.

The SPECTATOR.

——Servetur ad imum
Qualis ab incæpto proceſſerit, & ſibi conſtet. Hor.

Wedneſday, September 5. 1711.

NOthing that is not a real Crime makes a Man appear ſo contemptible and little in the Eyes of the World as Inconſtancy, eſpecially when it regards Religion or Party. In either of theſe Caſes, tho' a Man perhaps has but his Duty in changing his Side, he not only makes himſelf hated by thoſe he left, but is ſeldom entirely eſteemed by thoſe he comes over to.

In theſe great Articles of Life therefore a Man's Conviction ought to be very ſtrong, and if poſſible ſo well timed that wordly Advantages may ſeem to have no Share in it, or Mankind will be ill-natured enough to think he does not change Sides out of Principle, but either out of Levity of Temper or Proſpects of Intereſt. Converts and Renegadoes of all kinds ſhould take particular Care to let the World ſee they act upon honourable Motives; or whatever Approbations they may receive from themſelves, and Applauſes from thoſe they converſe with, they may be very well aſſured that they are the Scorn of all good Men, and the publick Marks of Infamy and Deriſion.

Ireſolution on the Schemes of Life that offer themſelves to our Choice, and Inconſtancy in purſuing them, are the greateſt and moſt univerſal Cauſes of all our Diſquiet and Unhappineſs. When Honour pulls one Way, Intereſt another, Inclination a third, and perhaps Reaſon contrary to all, a Man is likely to paſs his Time but ill who has ſo many different Parties to pleaſe. When the Mind hovers among ſuch a Variety of Allurements, one had better ſettle on a Way of Life that is not the very beſt we might have choſen, than grow old without determining our Choice, and go out of the World, as the greateſt Part of Mankind do, before we have reſolved how to live in it. There is but one Way of ſetting our ſelves at Reſt in this Particular, and that is by adhering ſtedfaſtly to one great End as the chief and ultimate Aim of all our Purſuits. If we are firmly reſolved to live up to the Dictates of Reaſon, without any Regard to Wealth, Reputation, or the like Conſiderations, any more than as they fall in with our principal Deſign, we may go through Life with Steddineſs and Pleaſure; but if we act by ſeveral broken Views, and will not only be virtuous, but wealthy, popular, and every thing that has a Value ſet upon it by the World, we ſhall live and die in Miſery and Repentance.

One would take more than ordinary Care to guard ones ſelf againſt this particular Imperfection, becauſe it is that which our Nature very ſtrongly inclines us to; for if we examine our ſelves throughly, we ſhall find that we are the moſt changeable Beings in the Univerſe. In Reſpect of our Underſtanding, we often embrace and reject the very ſame Opinions; whereas Beings above and beneath us have probably no Opinions at all, or at leaſt no Wavering and Uncertainties in thoſe they have. Our Superiours are guided by Intuition, and our Inferiours by Inſtinct. In Reſpect of our Wills, we fall into Crimes and recover out of them, are amiable or odious in the Eyes of our great Judge, and paſs our whole Life in offending and aſking Pardon. On the contrary, the Beings underneath us are not capable of ſinning, nor thoſe above us of repenting. The one is out of the Poſſibilities of Duty, and the other fixed in an eternal Courſe of Sin, or an eternal Courſe of Virtue.

There is ſcarce a State of Life, or Stage in it, that does not produce Changes and Revolutions in the Mind of Man. Our Schemes of Thought in Infancy are loſt in thoſe of Youth; theſe alſo take a different Turn in Manhood, till old Age often leads us back into our former Infancy. A new Title or an unexpected Succeſs throws us out of ourſelves, and in a Manner deſtroys our Identity. A cloudy Day or a little Sun-ſhine have as great an Influence on many Conſtitutions, as the moſt real Bleſſings or Misfortunes. A Dream varies our Being and changes our Condition while it laſts; and

every

every Passion, not to mention Health and Sickness, and the greater Alterations in Body and Mind, makes us appear almost different Creatures. If a Man is so distinguished among other Beings by this Infirmity, what can we think of such as make themselves remarkable for it even among their own Species? It is a very trifling Character to be one of the most variable Beings of the most variable Kind, especially if we consider that he who is the great Standard of Perfection has in him no Shadow of Change, but is the same Yesterday, to Day, and for ever.

As this Mutability of Temper and Inconsistency with our selves is the greatest Weakness of humane Nature, so it makes the Person who is remarkable for it in a very particular Manner more ridiculous than any other Infirmity whatsoever, as it sets him in a greater Variety of foolish Lights, and distinguishes him from himself by an Opposition of party-coloured Characters. The most humourous Character in *Horace* is founded upon this Unevenness of Temper and Irregularity of Conduct.

——— *Sardus habebat*
Ille Tigellius hoc. Cæsar qui cogere posset
Si peteret per amicitiam patriæ, atque suam, non
Quidquam proficeret: Si collibuisset, ab ovo
Usque ad mala citaret, Jö Bacche, modo summâ
Voce, modo hâc resonat quæ chordis quatuor ima.
Nil æquale homini fuit illi: Sæpe velut qui
Currebat fugiens hostem: Persæpe velut qui
Junonis sacra ferret. Habebat sæpe ducentos,
Sæpe decem servos. Modò reges atque tetrarchas,
Omnia magna loquens. Modò sit mihi mensa tripes, &
Concha salis puri, & toga, quæ defendere frigus,
Quamvis crassa, queat. Decies centena dedisses
Huic parco paucis contento, Quinque diebus
Nil erat in loculis. Noctes vigilabat ad ipsum
Mane: Diem totam stertebat. Nil fuit unquam
Sic impar sibi ——— Hor. Sat. 3. Lib. 1.

Instead of translating this Passage in *Horace*, I shall entertain my *English* Reader with the Description of a Parallel Character, that is wonderfully well finished by Mr. *Dryden*, and raised upon the same Foundation.

In the first Rank of these did Zimri stand:
A Man so various, that he seem'd to be
Not one, but all Mankind's Epitome.
Stiff in Opinions, always in the wrong;
Was every thing by Starts, and Nothing long;
But, in the Course of one revolving Moon,
Was Chymist, Fidler, Statesman, and Buffoon:
Then all for Women, Painting, Rhiming, Drinking,
Besides ten thousand Freaks that dy'd in thinking.
Blest Madman, who cou'd every Hour employ,
With something New to wish, or to enjoy!

ADVERTISEMENTS.

A Course of Chirurgical Operations, demonstrated in the Royal Garden at Paris; by Monsieur Dionis, chief Chirurgeon to the late Dauphiness, and to the present Dutchess of Burgundy. Translated from the Paris Edition. Printed for Jacob Tonson at Shakespear's Head against Catherine-street in the Strand.

Just Publish'd,

New Discoveries relating to the Cure of Cancers, wherein a Method of dissolving the cancerous Substance is recommended, with various Instances of the Author's Success in such Practice on Persons reputed incurable; in a Letter to a Friend. To which is added a Solution of some curious Problems concerning the Cancer. Printed for G. Strahan at the Golden Ball in Cornhill, 1697. 6d. where may be had Chirurgical Remarks on the Deafness, &c.

On Thursday will be publish'd,

An Essay on the Trade to the South Seas, with an Enquiry into three great Articles of that Trade: 1st, How far it is practicable, and may be carried on; 2d, How far it is impracticable, and not to be carried on; 3dly, What Relation the Trade to the South Seas and the rest of the publick Funds and Stocks have to one and another. By the Author of the Review. Price 6d. Sold by J. Baker in Pater-noster-Row; where may be the Eleven Opinions about Mr. H---ly. Price 1s.

Just Publish'd,

Philippi Cluverii Introductio in Universam Geographiam tam veterem quam novam Tabulis Geographicis XLVI. Notis olim ornata à Johanne Bunone, nunc vero scrupulosâ Additamentis & Annotationibus Joh. Frid. Hekelii & Joh. Reinhii Cum privilegio Ordinum Holl. & Westfrisiæ. 1697. Quibus in hac Editione Londinensi accedunt additamenta plurima ad Historiam & Geographiam, cum antiquam, tum hodiernam spectantia, ex Scriptoribus optimæ Notæ, Gellario præsertim & Luytio, excerpta & in Margarem relata. Quæ una cum Typis Æneis insuper additis, Editionem hancce prioribus, tertia parte saltem, auctiorem reddunt. Impensis Joannis Nicholloni Bibliopolæ, in Vico Little-Britain. Pretium 15s. In this Edition is 62 new Maps, and one 3d Addition in the Notes: The whole Printed on very good Paper in large 4to, and carefully Corrected by Mr. Reading Library-Keeper of Sion College, who Corrected the Greek Books at the Oxon Press. Sold by D. Brown and B. Tooke near Temple-Bar, R. Wilkin, W. Innys, and M. Atkins in St. Paul's Church-yard, and A. Bell and G. Strahan in Cornhill; and by Peter de Varenne, Paul Vaillant, Henry Ribotteau, Isaac Vaillant, Antony Mearne, James Levi, and Peter du Moyer, French Booksellers in the Strand. Note, Ozanam's whole Course of the Mathematicks in 5 large Vol. in 8vo. with many hundred Cutts, will be publish'd in English Michaelmas next, to Subscribers are desired to send in their Names.

A Sermon Preach'd at Taunton, in the County of Somerset, on the 23d of May 1711, being Wednesday in Whitsun-Week, before the Anniversary Assembly of Ministers there. By Joseph Standen, Minister at Colesford near Froome in Somersetshire. Published by Order of the said Assembly. Printed for J. Churchill at the Black Swan in Pater-Noster-Row.

The Art of English Poetry, containing, I. Rules for making Verses. II. A Collection of the most natural, agreeable and sublime Thoughts, viz. Allusions, Similes, Descriptions and Characters of Persons and Things that are to be found in the best English Poets. III. A Dictionary of Rhymes. By Edward Bysshe, Gent. The Fourth Edition, 8vo. Printed for Sam. Buckley, at the Dolphin in Little-Britain, and Sold by the Booksellers.

An Excellent Secret to take away Warts; being a *Noble Mineral Tincture, which safely and without trouble takes away the largest and most ugly Warts from the Hands, or other parts of the Body, so as never to return again, rendring the Places on which they grew, as smooth and fair as if no such Excrescence had ever been. It is a stupendious Medicine, and takes away Warts very soon, and with the greatest safety, certainty and ease imaginable. Is sold only at Mr. Allcraft's, a Toy shop, at the Blue-Coat-Boy against the Royal-Exchange, Cornhill, at 2 s. 6 d. a Bottle, (containing enough to take away 50 Warts) with Directions.*

The famous Bavarian Red Liquor:

Which gives such a delightful blushing Colour to the Cheeks of those that are White or Pale, that it is not to be distinguished from a natural fine Complexion, nor perceived to be artificial by the nearest Friend. Is nothing of Paint, or in the least hurtful, but good in many Cases to be taken inwardly. It renders the Face delightfully handsome and beautiful; is not subject to be rubb'd off like Paint, therefore cannot be discovered by the nearest Friend. It is certainly the best Beautifier in the World. Is sold only at Mr. Payne's Toyshop, at the Angel and Crown in St. Paul's Church-yard near Cheapside, at 3 s. 6 d. a Bottle, with Directions.

The famous Spanish Blacking for Gentlemens Shoes, that ever was Invented or Used; it making them always look like New, never Daubs the Hands in putting on, or Soils the Stockings in wearing; neither has it the ordinary Gloss of German-Balls, or the intolerable noisome Stink of Size, but of is an agreeable Scent. It indeed makes the Shoes look extreamly Neat and mightily preserves the Leather: All that use it Admire it, and those that once try it, will never use any thing else. Sold for 1 s. 6 d. the Pot, with Directions, (which will last 3 or 4 Months) only at Mr. John Hannam's a Toyshop, at the 3 Angels near Fetter-Lane in Cheapside.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertisements are taken in; as also by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.